

53m
language response is required by the sender;

applying a machine translation program to the native language response to generate a foreign language response if required by the sender;

determining if a human translation of the native language response to generate a foreign language response may be required by the sender;

if a human translation of the native language response to generate a foreign language response may be required by the sender, applying a quotation program to the native language response to generate a quotation for the human translation; and

forwarding the foreign language response and, if required, the quotation, to the sender.

AS
21. A method for automatic processing of electronic communication including the steps of:

sending a communication from a sender in a first language;

identifying the communication as a foreign language communication;

in response to one or more instructions by a recipient, applying a translation program to the communication to generate a machine translation of the communication to a second language;

in response to one or more instructions by a recipient, applying a quotation program to the communication to generate a quotation for a human translation of the communication to the second language; and

forwarding the communication and, if instructed, the machine translation and, if instructed, the quotation to the recipient.

22. The system of claim 13 wherein the first and sixth means are the same personal computer.

IN THE ABSTRACT:

Please replace the Abstract with the following rewritten Abstract:

AC
--A method and apparatus are described for automatic processing of electronic communications in a networked computer environment. The invention facilitates the appropriate form of translation of the communication to suit the circumstance. The communication is

identified as a foreign language communication, a quotation program is optionally applied to calculate the cost of a human translation and a machine translation program is optionally applied to the foreign language communication. The communication, optional quotation and optional machine translation are forwarded to a recipient. The method is transparent to the sender and receiver.--
